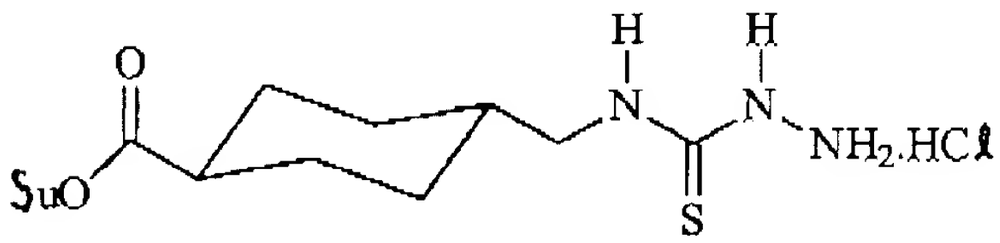
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims:

54. (cancelled)

55. (cancelled)

56. (currently amended) The compound according to claim 71 of the formula:



57.-70. (cancelled)

71. (new) A compound of formula I

$$B\text{-}R\text{-}A\text{-}NHNH_2 \cdot HX$$

I

wherein;

A is -NH(C=S)-;

B is an amino reactive moiety;

R is -OOC-(C_6H_6)-CH_2-; and

X is a negative counterion.

72. (new) The compound according to claim 71, wherein X is a halide or trifluoroacetate.

73. (new) The compound according to claim 71, wherein B is an amino reactive moiety is a succinimidyl ester, a hydroxybenzotriazolyl ester or a pentafluorophenol ester.

74. (new) A conjugate of the compound according to claim 71 bound to a biological molecule.

75.(new) The conjugate according to claim 74, wherein the biological molecule is a protein, a glycoprotein, or a peptide.

76. (new) The conjugate according to claim 74, wherein the biological molecule is a polynucleotide, an oligonucleotide, an RNA or a DNA.

77. (new) The conjugate according to claim 75, wherein the protein is an antibody.

78. (new) A method of immobilizing a biological molecule, comprising:

(a) preparing the conjugate according to claim 74; and

(b) applying the conjugate to a surface wherein the surface has at least one carbonyl moiety for a time and under conditions such that the hydrazine moiety of the conjugate reacts with the at least one carbonyl moiety of the surface forming a hydrazone bond to the surface.

79. (new) A method of immobilizing a biological molecule, comprising:

(a) applying the compound according to claim 74 to a surface comprising at least one amine moiety; and

(b) applying a biological molecule having at least one carbonyl moiety for a time and under conditions such that the hydrazine moiety of the surface reacts with the at least one carbonyl moiety of the biological molecule forming a hydrazone bond to the surface.

80. (new) A method of crosslinking a first biological molecule to a second biological molecule, comprising:

(a) preparing the conjugate of the first biological molecule according to claim 74; and

(b) mixing the conjugate with a second biological molecule wherein the second biological molecule has at least one carbonyl moiety for a time and under

conditions such that the hydrazine moiety of the conjugate reacts with the at least one carbonyl moiety of the second biological molecule forming a hydrazone bond crosslinking the first biological molecule to the second biological molecule.

81. (new) The method according to claim 80, wherein the first biological molecule comprises a protein, a glycoprotein, or a peptide.

82. (new) The method according to claim 80, wherein the first biological molecule comprises a polynucleotide, an oligonucleotide, an RNA or a DNA.

83. The method according to claim 81, wherein the protein is an antibody.